Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



Overview of Round 1 External Proposed MPA Arrays from Community Groups

Presentation to the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force March 1, 2010 • Fort Bragg, California

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Iterative MPA Planning Process

- Three rounds of marine protected area (MPA) planning
- Designed to gather information, test ideas and learn from evaluations and other feedback
- Feedback and input from MLPA Initiative staff, science team, task force, California Department of Fish and Game, California State Parks, and public





Process and Timeline

Round 1 – External MPA arrays

- Developed by Community Groups
- November 2009 March 2010
- Due February 1, followed by evaluation

Round 2 – NCRSG Draft MPA proposals

- Developed by MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
- March 2010 July 2010
- Due May 20, followed by evaluations

Round 3 – NCRSG Final MPA proposals

- Developed by MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
- August 2010 October 2010
- Due September 2, followed by evaluations



Adaptation Made to Process

Community groups designed MPA arrays in Round 1 of north coast process

- Integrate the robust local knowledge and interests
- Consider the unique characteristics of the north coast study region
- Allow those actively engaged to focus on external arrays





Efforts to Support Round 1

Creative approach to providing support to groups:

- · Series of workshops
- Office hours by phone
- MarineMap training
- MarineMap help address
- External MPA array list server
- Online "Guide to Creating External MPA Arrays"





Round 1 MPA Arrays

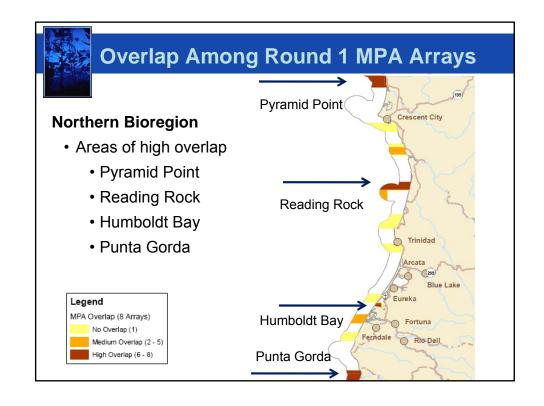
- Existing MPAs referred to as Proposal 0 (P0)
 - Represents the "no action alternative"
- External proposed MPA arrays from community groups
 - 18 community groups indicated an intent to submit
 - − 8 MPA arrays were submitted (external MPA arrays A − H)
 - Many represent broad, cross-interest collaboration
 - Geographic overlap among external arrays

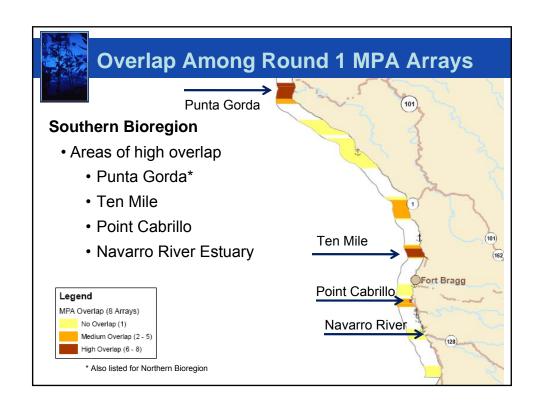
Total of 9 MPA arrays/proposals evaluated in Round 1

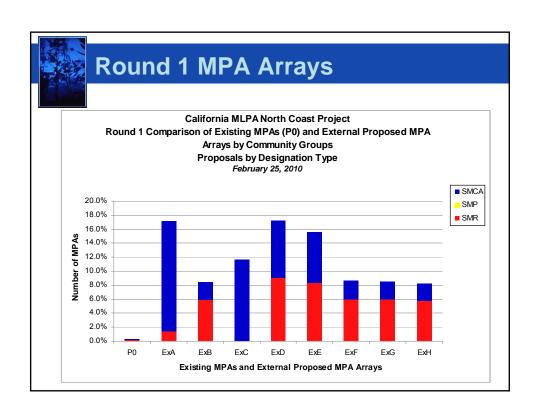


Round 1 MPA Arrays

- Proposal 0 Existing North Coast MPAs
- External Array A Foodshed
- External Array B Mendocino Ocean Community Alliance
- External Array C Conservation Coalition
- External Array D Northern Redwoods Oceanic
- External Array E Students for Environmental Action
- External Array F Albion Harbor Regional Alliance
- External Array G North Coast Local Interest MPA Work Group ("Tri-County")
- External Array H California Fisheries Coalition









Round 1 MPA Arrays

	Array Name	Number of MPAs (# SMRs)	Propose Tribal Uses?
Existing MPAs	Proposal 0	5 (1)	N/A
External Proposed MPA Arrays from Community Groups	External Array A (ExA)	15 (4)	Yes, 10 MPAs
	External Array B (ExB)	12 (7)	Yes, 10 MPAs
	External Array C (ExC)	15 (0)	Yes, 15 MPAs
	External Array D (ExD)	16 (7)	Yes, 15 MPAs
	External Array E (ExE)	14 (6)	Yes, 1 MPA
	External Array F (ExF)	13 (7)	Yes, 13 MPAs
	External Array G (ExG)	13 (7)	Yes, 13 MPAs
	External Array H (ExH)	10 (6)	Yes, 10 MPAs



Key Issues and Considerations

- High level of collaboration amongst community groups and efforts to converge
- Notable geographic overlap; groups borrowed MPA designs for geographies outside their local area
- Interest and commitment in retaining tribal uses shaped arrays and MPA design
- Some MPA arrays pose new concepts or MPA designs with potential feasibility issues
- Ability to improve designs based on newly available data (e.g. fine-scale substrate data)



Next Steps

- MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCRSG) will receive feedback on external arrays at March 24-25 meeting
- External MPA arrays will not continue independent of the NCRSG, however:
 - -Rounds 2 and 3 informed by the external arrays
 - -Many on the NCRSG contributed to external arrays
- Stated desire from NCRSG and community groups to converge around common designs
- Task force, science team, California Department of Fish and Game, California State Parks and staff guidance may facilitate convergence around MPA designs that meet guidelines